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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/529,634	11/16/2005	Xiangping Qian	09367.0012-00000	1369
22852 7590 01/15/2008 FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER LLP 901 NEW YORK AVENUE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20001-4413			EXAMINER LOEWE, SUN JAE Y	
			ART UNIT 1626	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 01/15/2008	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/529,634	Applicant(s) QIAN ET AL.	
	Examiner Sun Jae Y. Loewe	Art Unit 1626	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 November 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 12 and 14-16 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 7-10 and 17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4-6, 11 and 13 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3-31-2005; 2-16-2007</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

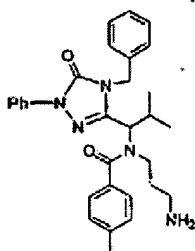
1. Claims 1-17 are pending in the instant application. Claims 18-21 were cancelled by preliminary amendment filed on November 16, 2005.

Election/Restrictions

2. Applicant's election without traverse of Group I, and species of

“N-(3- amino-propyl)-N-[1-(4-benzyl-5-oxo-1-phenyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-yl)-2- methyl-propyl]-4-methyl-benzamide”

(see structure below), in the reply filed on November 9, 2007 is acknowledged.



3. The following guidelines are provided by MPEP 1893.03(d):

“ Note: the determination regarding unity of invention is made without regard to whether a group of inventions is claimed in separate claims or as alternatives within a single claim. The basic criteria for unity of invention are the same, regardless of the manner in which applicant chooses to draft a claim or claims.

>If an examiner (1) determines that the claims lack unity of invention and (2) requires election of a single invention, when all of the claims drawn to the elected invention are allowable (i.e., meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101, 102, 103 and 112), the nonelected invention(s) should be considered for rejoinder. Any nonelected product claim that requires all the limitations of an allowable product claim, and any non-

¶ 18.20 National Stage Election of Species in 35 U.S.C. 371 Applications

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If "

The elected species appeared to be allowable. However, the generic claims encompassing the elected species were not allowable (see Sections 7-9). Therefore, pursuant MPEP 1893.03(d), non-elected species were withdrawn from further consideration.

4. Claims 12 and 14-16 withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected subject matter. Applicant elected without traverse.

Information Disclosure Statement

5. The information disclosure statements (dated March 31, 2005 and February 16, 2007) were filed in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and 37 CFR 1.98. The statements were considered. Signed copies of form 1449 are enclosed herewith.

Claim Objections

6. Claims 1-11, 13 and 17 objected to for containing non-elected subject matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

7. Claim 1 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The claim refers to "compound" and "pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof". It is unclear whether the invention is drawn to a mixture of the separate components (eg. salts), or whether the components are alternatives within one claim (eg. one salt). If the latter is the intention, the following correction is suggested: replace "and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof" with "or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof".

For the purpose of the present examination, the claim is interpreted to encompass alternatives.

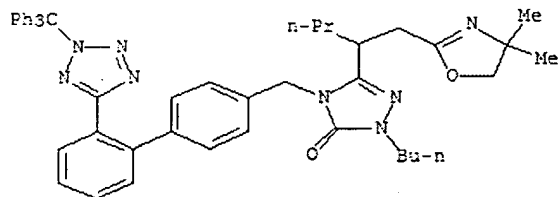
Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

8. Claims 1, 2, 7, 9 and 17 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Huang et al. (see RN 160561-33-1). The reference teaches the following angiotensin II receptor antagonist:



R₁=benzyl (substituted with R_a=substituted phenyl (substituted with R_a=substituted tetrazole (substituted with R_a=substituted alkyl (substituted with R_a=phenyl))));

T=substituted alkylene (substituted with R_a=alkyl);

R₄=n-butyl;

R₅ and R₂ form substituted heterocycle (substituted with R_a=alkyl).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

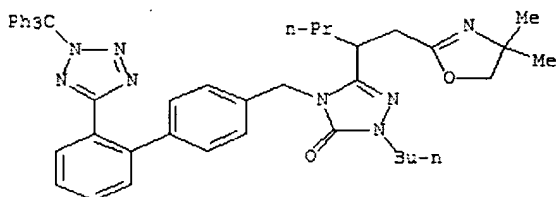
(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

9. Claims 3, 8 and 10 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Huang et al. *supra*.

The reference teaches the following angiotensin II receptor antagonist:



The claims encompass compounds with the following structural limitation: R₄=methyl, ethyl or propyl. The prior art compound is a homolog (ie. R₄=n-butyl).

To those skilled in chemical art, one homologue is not an advance over an adjacent member of a homologous series. The reason for this is that one of ordinary skill, knowing the properties of one member of series, would know what properties to expect in adjacent members. In re Henze, 85 USPQ 261 (1950). In re Wood, 199 U.S.P.Q. 137 (C.C.P.A. 1978) and In re Lohr, 137 U.S.P.Q. 548, 549 (C.C.P.A. 1963).

One of ordinary skill would be motivated, from the disclosure of Huang et al., to make the modification required to arrive at the instant invention with reasonable expectation of success for obtaining a compound that is an angiotensin II receptor antagonist. The motivation to make the claimed compound would be to make additional compounds for the quoted purpose.

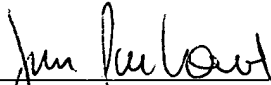
Thus, the instant claims are *prima facie* obvious over the teaching of the prior art.

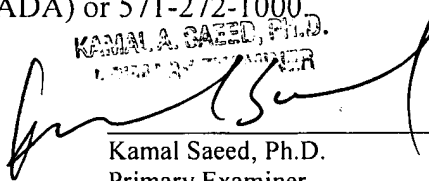
Conclusion

10. No claims allowed.
11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sun Jae Y. Loewe whose telephone number is (571) 272-9074. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-5:00 Est.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph McKane can be reached on (571)272-0699. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Sun Jae Y. Loewe, Ph.D.
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 1626


KAMAL A. SAEED, Ph.D.
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1626